

Appl. No. 09/625,710
Amtd. Dated August 28, 2003
Reply to Office Action of June 30, 2003

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 9, lines 4-10, with the following amended paragraph:

The rapid heating of the feed gases as a result of contact with the hot catalyst promotes fast reaction rates. In accordance with the present invention, the feed gas stream velocity past catalyst structure 24 [10] is preferably at least about 0.1 meter/second, often as high as 4-5 meters/second, and even as high as 70 meters/second. The maximum velocity will generally be determined by the specific equipment used; however, the theoretical limit is that velocity at which the reaction would be extinguished. If an external means of heating the catalytic device 24 is used, this theoretical limit is significantly large.